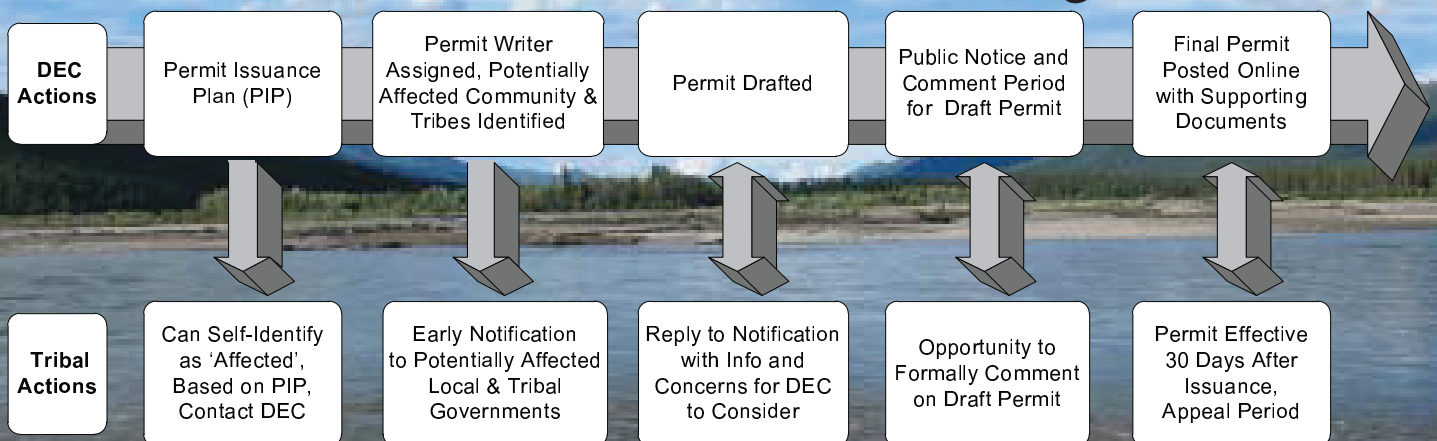


# Tribal Involvement in the Permitting Process



The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) strives to develop sound permits based on a full understanding of local conditions, informs tribes about potential permitting actions that may affect them, and provides opportunities for tribal input during the permitting process.



The Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) Program develops and issues permits to discharge wastewater to waters of the US, including discharge from industrial operations, sewage treatment plants, and construction projects.

#### Early Tribal Notification

DEC conducts an 'Affected Tribe Determination' to identify tribes potentially affected by a proposed APDES permitting action. Identified tribes are sent an 'Early Tribal Notification' letter detailing the potential permit, and encouraged to contact DEC with local concerns or knowledge. Tribes are notified again when the draft permit is available for public review and formal comment.



**Miriah Twitchell - APDES Local & Tribal Government Coordinator**

Contact Miriah with questions about permitting:  
410 Willoughby Ave, Ste 303  
Juneau, AK, 99801-1800  
(907)465-5272  
[miriah.twitchell@alaska.gov](mailto:miriah.twitchell@alaska.gov)

#### Tribal Website and Outreach Materials

DEC is committed to producing tools that assist tribes in navigating and participating in the permitting process. We have developed the APDES tribal web page to make these materials easily accessible:  
<http://dec.alaska.gov/water/TribalCommunication/tribes.html>.

#### Materials now available:

- Permit Issuance Plan
- Guidance Documents
- Tribal Communication Protocol
- APDES Frequently Asked Questions
- Wastewater Permits in Alaska
- Compliance and Enforcement Information
- Sign up for APDES Permit and Program Updates

